

Natural Communities Coalition

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Minutes of Quarterly Meeting

Date: December 13, 2018
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Community Meeting Room, Irvine Ranch Water District
15500 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA

I. Call to Order

President Steve LaMar called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. President LaMar the executive director to lead the Board members and other meeting attendees in the flag salute.

Roll Call

The following Directors or Alternates, constituting a quorum of the Board, were recorded as present at the meeting:

Jonathan Snyder, US Fish and Wildlife Service
David Mayer, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Eric Dymmel (Alternate), California Department of Parks and Recreation
Stacy Blackwood, County of Orange
Steve LaMar, Irvine Ranch Water District
Diane Doesserich, Metropolitan Water District
Douglas Feremenga, Transportation Corridor Agencies
Dean Kirk, Irvine Company
Nancy Gardner, City of Newport Beach
Michael Recuperero, At-Large Public Director (Business)
Mark Denny, At-Large Public Director (Recreation)
Hallie Jones (Alternate), At-Large Public Director (Recreation)
Tom Maloney, Coastal Greenbelt Authority
Brian Norton, Orange County Fire Authority
Dave Erickson (Alternate), Orange County Fire Authority

The following Directors were recorded as absent:

Ken Borngrebe, Southern California Edison
Travis Huxman, University of California, Irvine
Darin Loughrey, City of Irvine
Thomas Eastman, At-Large Public Director (Environment)

II. On a motion by Director Nancy Gardner, which was seconded by Director Stacy Blackwood, the minutes of the September 20, 2018, meeting were approved with abstentions from those who were not present at the meeting.

III. Investment Report: 3rd Quarter 2018

Daniel Schoessow, Senior Vice President and Senior Investment Officer of Northern Trust, reported on the investment performance of the Endowment, Acquisition and Restoration, Cowbird and Pacific Pocket Mouse Custodial Funds during the 3rd Quarter of 2018.

IV. Audited Financial Statement: September 30, 2018

Michael Barloewen, CPA, Partner, Windes, Inc., provided the Board of Directors an overview of the audited financials for the October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2018, fiscal year.

On a motion by Alternate Director Eric Dymmel, which was seconded by Secretary Mark Denny, the September 30, 2018, audited financials were accepted and approved unanimously.

V. Financial Report: November 30, 2018

Treasurer Dean Kirk presented the November 30, 2018, financials for Board review and comment.

On a motion by Director Michael Recupero, which was seconded by Alternate Director Dymmel, the November 30, 2018, financial report was approved unanimously.

VI. Wildland Report:

A. Draft Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Plan Revision

Travis Brooks, Land IQ, presented an overview of the revised Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Plan to the Board of Directors. The immediate next step is to distribute the draft plan to partners for review and comment. The modified draft plan will be presented to the Board for approval at the March, 2019, regular meeting and, if approved, forwarded to the Wildlife Agencies for review and final approval.

B. Upland Habitat Restoration and Seasonal Pool Creation

Milan Mitrovich, PhD, NCC Science Director, introduced the Board to a pending project in the coastal portion of the Reserve. The project blends coastal sage scrub habitat restoration with seasonal pond creation to benefit Western spadefoot toads. The project has been identified for funding by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB). A final decision will be made at the March 7, 2019, WCB meeting. The approximately \$760,000 grant will result in the restoration of up to 18 acres of uplands habitat and creation of 16 permanent breeding ponds for

Western spadefoot toads on land owned and managed by OC Parks and California State Parks.

C. Wildlife Conservation Board Resolution

Executive Director Jim Sulentic informed the Board that a resolution of support from the NCC Board of Directors is required by WCB as part of the grant approval process. He presented the following resolution language for NCC Board review and approval:

WHEREAS, the board of directors of the Natural Communities Coalition is authorized to transact such business as it deems necessary and proper under the bylaws of the organization and in furtherance of its approved mission; and,

WHEREAS, in pursuit of that mission a grant proposal is being submitted by the Natural Communities Coalition to the Wildlife Conservation Board; and,

WHEREAS, the board of directors has approved the expenditure of matching funds as identified in the grant proposal; and,

WHEREAS, it is customary for the board of directors to delegate the authority to execute board-approved contracts and agreements to its Executive Director; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that upon award of the proposed grant by the Wildlife Conservation Board, James Sulentic, Executive Director, is hereby authorized to execute such instruments and papers, and perform such acts as may be legally, properly and reasonably required or necessary for the purpose of entering into this grant agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Steve LaMar, President of the Natural Communities Coalition, a nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation of the State of California, certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution as it appears in the records of the corporation and was duly and legally adopted by unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of the corporation on December 13, 2018, pursuant to and in accordance with the bylaws of said Corporation.

On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Treasurer Kirk, the WCB resolution was approved unanimously.

VII. Committee Reports

President LaMar invited committee chairs to comment on developments since the last Board meeting.

VIII. Executive Director's Report

A. Draft Strategic Plan 2019 - 2021

Executive Director Sulentic thanked members of the Board for their participation in the development and review process of the new draft strategic plan covering the years 2019 through 2021. He asked if any members of the Board had questions or

comments on the draft plan in the board packet. Hearing none, President LaMar called for a motion to approve the strategic plan.

On a motion by Director Gardner, which was seconded by Vice President Diane Doesserich, the 2019 – 2021 Strategic Plan was approved unanimously.

B. Amended FY 2018-19 Budget

Executive Director Sulentic reminded the Board that due to the timing of the Strategic Planning Workshop prior to the September, 2018, Board meeting, the approved FY 2018-19 Budget only included administration and known ongoing project funding, not funding for new projects tied to the new strategic plan.

NCC staff provided the Board an overview of new projects and relating funding. The projects presented were reviewed and recommended by the Executive Committee for approval.

On a motion by Secretary Denny, which was seconded by Director Blackwood, the amended FY 2018-19 budget was approved unanimously.

C. Proposed 2019 NCC Board Meeting Dates

Executive Director Sulentic presented the following NCC Board meeting dates for the 2019 calendar year:

March 21, 2019

June 20, 2019

September 19, 2019

December 12, 2019

Hearing no objections, President LaMar called for a motion to approve

On a motion by Director Blackwood which was seconded by Alternate Director Dymmel, the 2019 NCC Board meeting dates were approved unanimously.

IX. Oral Communications

President LaMar invited members of the Board or public in attendance to address the Board on matters not part of the meeting agenda. No communication was offered.

X. Closed Session

President LaMar called for a closed session to conduct an annual staff performance review.

XII. Adjournment

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The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m., on March 21, 2019, in the Community Meeting Room on the Irvine Ranch Water District campus. The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, _____
James Sulentic, Executive Director

ATTEST: _____
Secretary, Mark Denny

DRAFT